NEWS

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Donna Brock
(216) 707-2260
dbrock@clevelandart.org

The Cleveland Museum of Art Names Susan Kaesgen to Board of Trustees

CLEVELAND (Dec. 22, 2004) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) Director Katharine Lee Reid today announced the appointment of Susan M. Kaesgen as a trustee of the Museum.

Kaesgen, who holds the M.L.S. degree in indigenous art from Skidmore College and the master's degree in art education from Case Western Reserve University, is a longtime supporter of the Museum and an advocate for the arts. She is a former supervisor of "young people's classes" at the Museum.

"Sue Kaesgen's absolute conviction that arts education is necessary and critical in the development of youth, as well as to the benefit of the adult public, has manifested itself in creative and edifying ways throughout her association with CMA," Reid said. "I have no doubt," she added, "that her convictions will serve us well in this new role."

Susan and her husband, MTD Products Inc. President and COO Dieter Kaesgen, have long supported the Museum. In addition to playing a key role in securing corporate membership status for MTD, they have been loyal Patrol and Family members as well as members of the Director's Circle, and are currently members of the President's Circle. The two also were members of the Museum Associates Class of 2002-2003. Susan, a world traveler, also is a member of the Museum's Textile Alliance and regularly teaches classes in the Museum.

Her belief in and support of the arts transcends the museum edifice. Earlier this year, she hosted a focus group to engage residents in the western portion of Northeast Ohio in a conversation about their perceptions about the arts and the Museum. On a broader scale, she has personally created opportunities to "take art to the people." In 2003, for example, she secured a total of 20 reproductions from The Cleveland Museum of Art's permanent collection and installed them throughout the offices of MTD.

"It opens up new vistas, new perspectives on how we look at our world and even our own lives." That is the power of the incredible collection at The Cleveland Museum of Art," Kaesgen said, "and I am honored to have been named a trustee. I feel at home there, and I want others to feel equally at home in the Museum."

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America's leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 6,000 years. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship, and art acquisitions. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, services, and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

# # #